## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

www.flsb.uscourts.gov

## GUIDELINES FOR MOTIONS SEEKING AUTHORITY TO USE CASH COLLATERAL AND MOTIONS SEEKING APPROVAL OF POSTPETITION FINANCING

As provided by Local Rules 4001-2 and 4001-3, the following guidelines apply to all motions filed pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 4001 seeking authority to use cash collateral and motions seeking approval of postpetition financing filed in this court.

## I. Motions - General

Except as provided herein and elsewhere in the Local Rules, all cash collateral and financing requests under 11 U.S.C. §§ 363 and 364 shall be heard by motion filed pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules 4001 and 9014 ("Cash Collateral/Financing Motion"). A motion seeking authority to use cash collateral pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 363 shall comply with Bankruptcy Rule 4001(b) or (d) and Local Rules 9013-1(F) and (G). A motion seeking approval of postpetition financing pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 364 shall comply with Bankruptcy Rule 4001(c) and (d) and Local Rules 9013-1(F) and (H).

## **II.** Motions - Content

(A) All Cash Collateral/Financing Motions must (1) recite whether the proposed form of order and/or underlying cash collateral stipulation or loan agreement contains any provision of the type indicated in these Guidelines (2) highlight any such provision in the proposed form of order, cash collateral stipulation and/or loan agreement, and (3) provide the justification for the inclusion of such provision.

**Note:** Provisions that grant cross-collateralization protection (other than replacement liens or other adequate protection) to the prepetition secured creditors (i.e., clauses that secure prepetition debt by post petition assets in which the secured creditor would not otherwise have a security interest by virtue of its prepetition security agreement or applicable law) **shall not be permitted.** (See In re Saybrook Manufacturing Co., Inc., 963 F.2d 1490 (11 Cir.1992).

- **(B)** A request for the following provisions shall be in print either highlighted or bold as to make them more prominent then the remainder of the text:
  - (1) Provisions or findings of fact that bind the estate or all parties in interest with respect to the validity, perfection or amount of the secured creditor's prepetition claim or debt or the waiver of claims against the secured creditor without first giving parties-in-interest at least 75 days from the entry of the order and the creditors' committee, if formed, at least 60 days from the date of its formation to investigate such matters.
  - (2) Provisions or findings of fact that bind a subsequently appointed trustee.

- (3) Provisions that seek to waive, without notice, whatever rights the estate may have under 11 U.S.C. § 506(c).
- (4) Provisions that grant liens on the debtor's property which is unencumbered by consensual liens.
- (5) Provisions that grant liens on the debtor's causes of action arising under Chapter 5 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- (6) Provisions that deem prepetition secured debt to be postpetition debt or that use post-petition loans from a prepetition secured creditor to pay part or all of that secured creditor's prepetition debt, other than as provided in 11 U.S.C. § 552(b).
- (7) Provisions that provide disparate treatment for the professionals retained by a creditors' committee from that provided for the professionals retained by the debtor with respect to a professional fee carveout.
- (8) Provisions that subordinate any lien, without the consent of that lienor.
- (9) Provisions that grant the secured creditor the right to exercise remedies upon a default by the debtor, without notice to the debtor and other parties-in-interest, a hearing, and further order of the Court.
- (C) All Cash Collateral/Financing Motions shall also provide a summary of the essential terms of the proposed use of cash collateral and/or financing (e.g., the maximum borrowing available on a final basis, the interim borrowing limit, borrowing conditions, interest rate, maturity, events of default, use of funds limitations, and protections afforded under 11 U.S.C. §§ 363 and 364), and shall have as an attachment a budget setting forth the projected cash flow of the debtor for the period of time for which the credit is sought, as well as a proposed form of order granting the Cash Collateral/Financing Motion. The proposed form of order shall expressly provide for a carveout for fees due the clerk of the court or the United States trustee pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1930.
- III. <u>Interim Relief.</u> When Cash Collateral/Financing Motions are filed with the Court on or shortly after the date of the entry of the order for relief, the Court may grant interim relief, after notice and a hearing, pending review by the interested parties of the proposed debtor-in-possession financing arrangements. Such interim relief is intended to avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the estate pending a final hearing. In the absence of extraordinary circumstances, the Court shall not approve interim financing orders that include any of the provisions listed in section II (B) (1) through (9) of these Guidelines.
- **IV.** Final Orders. A final order shall be entered only after notice and a hearing pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 4001 and Local Rule 2002-1(b). The final hearing shall not be held until at least 10 days following the organizational meeting of the creditors' committee contemplated by 11 U.S.C. § 1102, unless the Court orders otherwise.
- V. <u>Agreement in Settlement of Objection to Cash Collateral/Financing Motion</u>. All agreements in settlement of an objection to a Cash Collateral/Financing Motion must be in writing and must be approved in conformity with Bankruptcy Rule 4001(d).